

Fall 2009

## University Library Bookmarks (Vol. 6, No. 1)

Iowa State University Library

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# BOOKMARKS

FALL 2009 - WINTER 2010

Volume 6, Number 1





## Cover Photo:

Sticks artwork during the carving process

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From Dean Olivia Madison

Let me assure you the Library, whether Parks Library or our electronic library, is a growing vital part of Iowa State University! For the fourth year, the number of Parks Library users has dramatically increased – since 2006 we have experienced over a 20% increase! Over half of our students (undergraduates and graduates) report that they use library facilities at least once a week! Students are seeking places to study with friends and classmates, state-of-the-art multi-media tools to use for class projects, computers to find valuable library resources, and even coffee on cold wintery days. Moreover, faculty and students flock to the ISU e-Library. The e-Library (soon to be redesigned) provides 24/7 access to 85% of our currently received journals, growing e-book and unique digital collections, and electronic reserves supporting hundreds of classes.



This newsletter features the newest addition to library facilities, a new classroom (funded by the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust)

that opened late fall semester as part of our innovative Learning Connections Center. It is the first classroom on campus that effectively combines traditional classroom teaching (in the round no less) with hands-on computer use. Subject librarians have begun using it for seminars and workshops and, when not in use for instruction, it serves as a popular new computer lab. We are particularly excited about the new commissioned artwork from Sticks (an internationally known Des Moines-based company founded by Sarah Grant). The artwork envelopes the classroom's two public entrances – one enters the major entrance under the branches of the tree of knowledge. Talented Sticks artists created intricately carved doors and panels representing the ever changing seasons with artistic appreciation of the historic art in Parks Library. We fully expect this artwork to be featured on hundreds of campus tours. In our next newsletter, we will feature the artwork, the artists, and our donors that made it all possible.

As part of a major campus sustainability effort and finding new cost efficiencies in this struggling economy, we have several exciting success stories. For the first time, the University Library closed (with 54 other campus buildings) for eleven days during winter break. With planning and support from library staff and the campus community, we saved \$12,100 in energy savings. This represented a 65% energy reduction over normal operations in Parks Library. However, the e-Library remained open and heavily used throughout the break! The Library Sustainability Committee received a grant from the Government of the Student Body to retrofit our public printers so they will print automatically on both sides of paper. Several service learning opportunities have developed out of our sustainability initiatives. For example, graduate student Tom Lindsley undertook an independent study course that involves creating a comprehensive A to Z sustainability research guide for the e-Library. These types of library study opportunities offer students unique and memorable learning and discovery opportunities. Library 160, our required information literacy course, moved online thereby saving money for Library 160 students and the Library. And, we installed energy efficient window-film and highly efficient lighting systems in the historic first floor.

Please know that your support and belief in the ISU Library are deeply appreciated by the campus. It is needed now more than ever as we explore exciting ways of expanding what we do in meeting and surpassing student and faculty needs in the face of current economic challenges.

*Olivia M. A. Madison*

## Library Tree of Knowledge

In October 2009, a new exciting high-tech classroom opened in Parks Library. It adjoins the recently created Learning Connections Center where students come to work on their class research projects and obtain assistance with information and technology. Our new classroom builds upon the role of the LCC, and over 7,000 students a year will enter its doors to learn how to best identify and use Library resources as well as provide a solid foundation for their lifelong learning skills. This major renovation project (reutilizing former microform storage space) was funded through a generous gift from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust.

Dean Olivia Madison envisioned commissioned artwork gracing the two classroom doors, and we began lively conversations with Sarah Grant, the founder and President of Sticks, a Des Moines-based art company, and two of her artists. The project concept grew like topsy to become dramatic sculpted wooded entrances into the classroom.

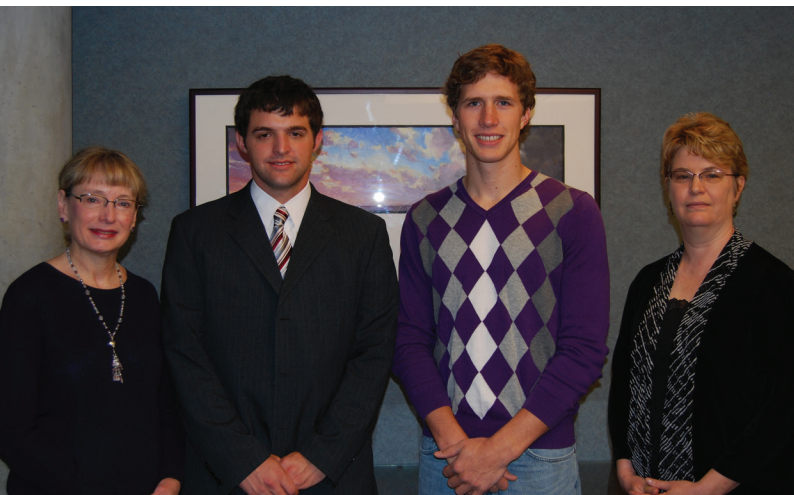
The main entry features a three-dimensional sculptural tree (representing the tree of knowledge) with hand-carved leaves on a stylized landscape background with 3-D carvings related to scientific knowledge icons. A “fall” color palate ties with colors found in a large Sticks mural (celebrating the recent ISU 150<sup>th</sup> celebration) located close by, as well as representing “fall semester.” The classroom sign literally hangs from a branch. The secondary entry features a “spring” color palate with a more two-dimensional carved tree to round out the academic year theme of “spring semester” and feature colors found in the historic Grant Wood Murals located in the original 1924 Library entrance and staircase.

The Library believes this artwork will excite and draw students into the new classroom as they walk through the tree of knowledge. The symbols will undoubtedly become a university “fun facts” challenge. And, the art will be a vibrant addition to the Library’s noted art treasures.



## New Classroom In Use

This newly opened, unique state-of-the-art classroom features 48 student computers, an instructor workstation, and shared instructor monitors adjacent to each student computer. The classroom is used by library faculty to teach course-related research instruction sessions for ISU classes, hands-on workshops, and online testing for Library 160, the Library’s required information literacy course. The classroom will function as an open computer lab when not being used for library instruction programs.



## United We Go Green!

The library has joined forces with the Government of the Student Body to improve sustainable practices in public computing areas. Libraries are inherently stewards of resources. Having books and other media that can be used over and over again is an essential part of our campus Living Green ethos. This doesn’t mean that a sustainability assessment of the library’s internal practices is not in order.

*(Continued on page 7)*

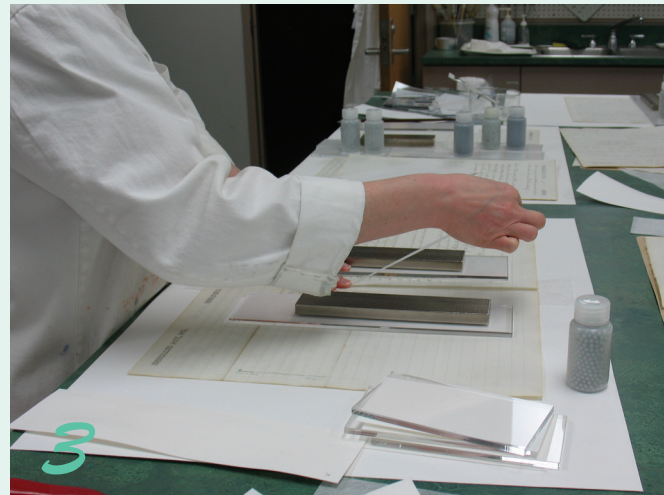
*Dean Olivia M.A. Madison, Anthony Maly, Clayton Severson, Sarah Passonneau*



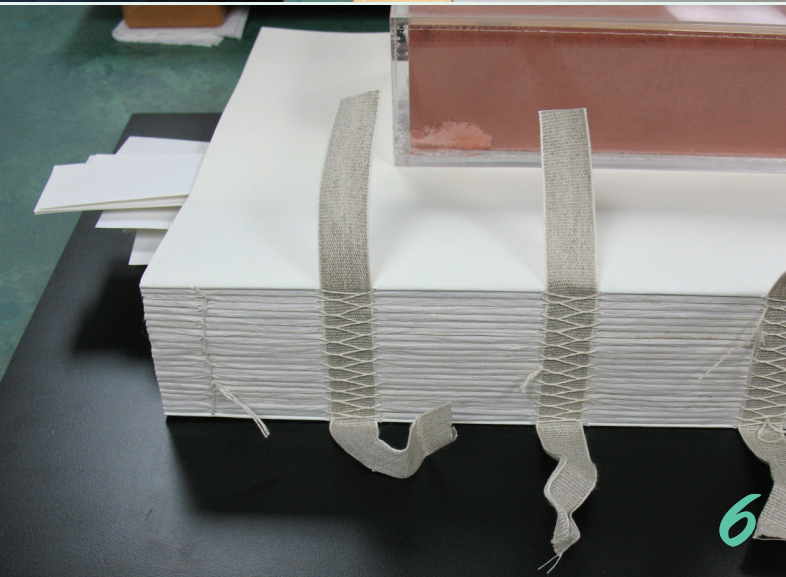
# Repair of the 1858 Laws of Iowa

*In 2008, Iowa State University celebrated its 150th anniversary. Among the many events commemorating the founding of the University was a display in the Special Collections Department of the ISU Library that included some of the earliest artifacts documenting ISU's history. Special Collections had arranged with the State Archives (located at the State Historical Society of Iowa in Des Moines) to borrow the original 1858 Act that established the State Agricultural College and Model Farm (now Iowa State University). In 1862, the Iowa legislature voted to accept the provision of the Morrill Act, awarding it to the Iowa Agricultural College in 1864, and establishing it as a land grant institution. Classes began in 1869.*

*The ISU Library is fortunate to have a well-equipped book and paper conservation facility, constructed in 1995 through generous funding from the Lennox Foundation, Tom Booth (ISU '81), and Betsy Anderson Booth (ISU '81). Since the State Historical Society lacks such a resource in their Des Moines location, part of the loan agreement was that the bound volume containing the 1858 Act—in exceedingly poor condition—be repaired by the ISU Library's conservator, Katherine Swift Kelly. Kelly is a graduate of the book and paper conservation program at the University of Texas School of Information, where she earned both a library degree and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Conservation of Library and Archival Materials. She subsequently interned at the Weissman Special Collections Conservation Lab at Harvard University.*







## Description of Book and Its Condition

The 1858 Laws of Iowa is a large (11" x 16") ledger volume, compiling the handwritten acts of the Iowa State Legislature of 1858. It was bound in full leather, without much decoration. The most obvious damage to the book was severe blackening of the leather on the front and back covers. Although old leather can blacken merely by getting too hot or wet, another intriguing possibility is that the volume was damaged in the 1904 fire at the State Capitol.

Where the leather was not blackened, it exhibited a condition called "red rot" where the leather has turned powdery and unstable. Over the years, the resulting red dust had been tracked into the pages by careless fingers. The leather spine piece was entirely missing.

Inside the volume, the damage was much less obvious. The paper was still creamy white and strong. Each page was a little brittle around the edges, particularly when the page extended past the rest of the volume. The page attachment, however, was shot—the sewing broken and the volume separated into several large chunks. In addition, the boards were detached from the text.

## Treatment Performed

- ◆ Our photo montage illustrates the numerous steps in the conservation of this unique and irreplaceable artifact.
- ◆ The condition of the damaged volume is meticulously documented through digital photography and extensive note-taking. (Figures 1 & 2)
- ◆ The volume is disbound, separating it into individual leaves and folios. The conservator cuts out the original sewing; scrapes off the old, brittle adhesive; inspects each page for tears; and cleans the occasional soot smudge and leather dust using high-quality eraser crumbs. The conservator then creates center-folded gatherings from the original pages, a new and stronger structure that will allow the volume, when bound, to be opened more freely. Each center fold is created by attaching two leaves or folios together with kozo tissue and wheat starch paste. (3 & 4)
- ◆ The gatherings are sewn together on a wooden sewing frame, with thread running through the center of each gathering and looping around four wide supports made of linen tape. New endpapers are added to help protect the first and last pages. (5 & 6)
- ◆ Wheat starch paste is applied to the spine to consolidate it. It is then gently rolled into a curve, and placed in a machine called a "job backer." (7) This tool pinches the book just below the swell of the spine, helping to define the curve and create a nice crease for the cover boards to line up to. The spine is then lined with wheat starch paste and tissue, creating a water-reversible barrier layer that allows the book to be easily taken apart and rebound if necessary.

(Continued on page 6)



**Dinkelman, Andrea.** Assistant Professor/Science & Technology librarian, attended a biomedical informatics course, September 20 -26, 2009, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA. Sponsored by National Library of Medicine. Course provided overview of the “application of computer technologies and information science in biomedicine and health science.”

**McKiernan, Gerry.** “The Paradigms They Are A-Changin’ - The Future Of Research And Scholarship: Open / Semantic / Social / Mobile.” Presentations. National University of Ireland, Dublin (June 4 2009); National University of Ireland, Galway (June 5 2009); University College Cork (June 8 2009); University of Limerick (June 9 2009).

## STAFF—MAKING US PROUD!

**McKiernan, Gerry.** “M Is For Service: Current Mobile Trends In Libraries ” Keynote presentation delivered at the Handheld Librarian Online Conference 2009, July 30 2009, 11:00 12:15 PM, Learning Times [<http://www.handheldlibrarian.org/>].

**McKiernan, Gerry.** “InSite-Connect: A Model For Dynamic Interdisciplinary Interaction.” Keynote presentation delivered at InSite 2009: Informing Science + IT Education Joint Conference, June 13 2008, 9:45 – 10:30 PM, Charles H. Jones Building, Macon State College, Macon, Georgia.

**Parsons, Kathy A.** (2009) *Stacks After Dark: What Really Happens When the Boss is Gone for the Day?* Iowa Library Association/Association of College and Research Libraries Conference. April 2009, Waterloo, IA.

**Passonneau, Sarah and Coffey, Dan.** (2009) *Futurecasting Libraries: Instant messaging: a study in culture, technology and services.* Iowa Library Association/Association of College and Research Libraries Conference. April 2009, Waterloo, IA.

**Passonneau, Sarah.** Presentation at ALA’s annual meeting in Chicago, Summer 2009. Her poster was part of ARI’s LibQUAL+ share fair.

**Passonneau, Sarah.** Presentation titled *Building Partners, Building Opportunities: Sustainability in Libraries* was part of a daylong “Green Libraries” hosted by Amigos Library Services.

**Pedersen, Wayne A. and Runestad, Anders.** “Scanning Productivity in Interlibrary Loan” *Resource Sharing and Information Networks*. 20 (2009): 45-55.

**Pellack, Lorraine J.** 2009. “Soil Surveys: They’re Not Just for Farmers.” [Tips from the Experts column.] *Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship*, no. 58 (Summer). Available online at: <http://www.isrl.org/09-summer/tips.html>

### *(Repair of the 1958 Laws of Iowa, Continued from page 5)*

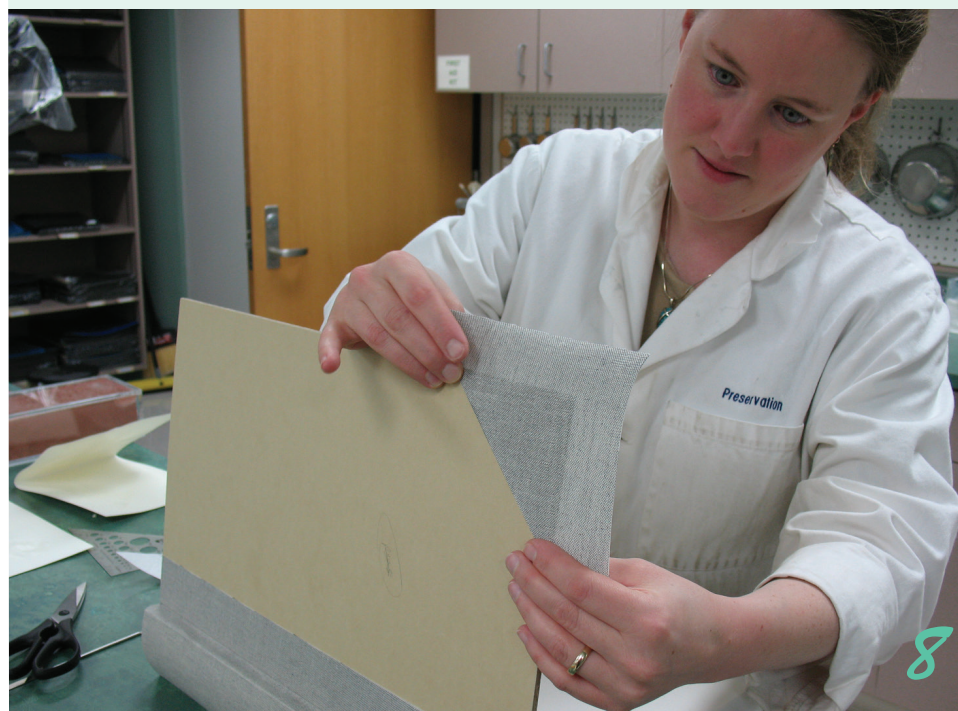
- ◆ A new, period-appropriate case is created for the volume. The conservator chooses a split board case, with halfbinding in cloth and paper. “Split board” describes how the cover boards are made up of several layers of material. The “half binding” refers to what is protecting the cover boards—the spine and corners covered in cloth and the boards covered with paper. This style of binding is consistent with the volume’s origins, and in fact, would resemble many stationery bindings from its time period. (8 & 9)
- ◆ The final step is to build a clamshell box to house the re-bound volume together with the original boards. The boards are retained for their artifactual value, providing evidence not only of the original binding structure, but also of the damage attributed to the 1904 fire. The clamshell box is attractive and keeps all the pieces together, but is quite heavy—with the book and boards inside it weighs 19¼ pounds! The finishing step is to add matching labels to the book and the box. (10)

### Conclusion

In total, conservation of the 1858 Act required some 90 hours to complete. The undertaking afforded many opportunities to the Library’s conservator: a chance to demonstrate techniques and materials to co-workers; to utilize a newly-installed digital photo-documentation system; to trial the use of remoistenable tissue; and to discuss leather consolidation, clamshell box making and the split board binding structure with colleagues in the lab.

As the founding document of our University, the 1858 Act holds a special importance as an object. We can microfilm, photocopy, and digitize it all we like, but people will still return to and be interested in the original book. No doubt, when the 200th Anniversary rolls around in 2058, we will once again borrow this book and display it for the edification of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

***For Katherine Swift Kelly’s detailed account of this remarkable conservation project, with numerous additional photos, see: 1858 Laws of Iowa: a Treatment Narrative, at <http://www.lib.iastate.edu/cfora/pdf/3005660.pdf>.***





## Collection Enrichment Fund "Wish List"

Support for the collections is an important part of the University Library campaign, so the subject librarians have formulated a "Wish List" of expensive resources that would be quite useful to have added to our collection.

If you would be willing to assist the Library in acquiring one or more of these items, please contact Jackie Howard, 515-450-7975, or [libraryfriends@iastate.edu](mailto:libraryfriends@iastate.edu). Any of these important research collections would make a wonderful gift to the University Library!

### *(United, We Go Green, Continued from page 3)*

After a review of internal practices, the library sustainability taskforce realized that none of the fifteen public printers could duplex print (print on both sides of a sheet of paper). The library IT department found that retrofitting the printers was a possibility. Ian Ringgenberg, the student representative on the task force, mentioned that GSB was focusing on sustainable issues. Task force chair, Sarah Passonneau, armed with the part number and total cost for the retrofit, contacted Clayton Severson, student director of Sustainability, and Anthony Maly, a student senator. Through the joint efforts of Severson and Maly, the bill passed the senate floor and now the library's printers are going green.

Clayton said: "In the position of GSB Director of Sustainability, I am responsible for assisting with these types of projects. And I always print (like many students) at the library so it will be nice to do this. My backpack will be half as full (with papers)." Anthony added: "Students enjoy studying in the library. This is a good initiative to help out with. We want to help students realize different ways to be more sustainable; students might think if they can print double sided here they can do it somewhere else."

The total savings for this project will be 20,000 pounds of paper. If an instructor requires single-sided printing, students will be able to choose that option.

### SCIENCES

Historical Encyclopedia of Natural  
and Mathematical Sciences (Springer)  
(6 vol. set ) ..... \$3,100.

### SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES

Encyclopedia of Religious and Philosophical  
Writings in Late Antiquity..... \$300.  
Quantitative Research in Education..... \$825.  
Critical Concepts in Religion..... \$900.  
Handbook of Contemporary Paganism..... \$217.  
Encyclopedia of Neuroscience (10 vol. set)..... \$3,200.  
US Government Serial Set Digital Collection Part II  
(contains full text of all the Reports, Documents  
and Journals of the U.S. Senate and House of  
Representatives)  
1970-1979 ..... \$21,000.  
1980-1989 ..... \$21,000.  
1990-2003 ..... \$5,000.



# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Ames, Iowa 50011-2140



## From the Library Director of Development

While the concept of charity may be traced to the ancient world, philanthropy and volunteerism remain uniquely American. Andrew Carnegie was an industrialist, businessman, entrepreneur, and a major philanthropist. He set the modern day standards in the early 20th century when he suggested that surplus personal wealth be returned for community benefit. His philanthropic focus included building free public libraries and improving their service. Today, free libraries can be found globally.

Those libraries thrive and flourish as a result of private gift support as well as volunteers that offer their time and expertise. That is certainly evident at our Iowa State University Library. Gift money is used to enhance collections, improve physical space, and offer services that would not otherwise be available. One example comes through the generosity of Liberal Arts and Sciences graduate, Tim Balm (West Chester, Ohio). He created the Timothy and Debra Balm Endowed Student Assistantship for the library. As his gift is realized, the dollars will be designated to provide a stipend that covers the current student wage along with an additional 10 percent to reward top-notch students. This gives the student an opportunity to improve their leadership skills while bettering the library. As one of the largest student employers on campus, the library could not function without student assistants. The student assistantships equip students, regardless of their career path, with unique skills and experiences that will last a lifetime. Even in this year of tremendous challenge, gifts from friends, alumni, and the parents of undergraduate students arrive

daily. This makes a huge impact on the library and its operations.

For that, we are extremely grateful. The competition for philanthropic dollars is much stronger than ever before. Each gift, regardless of size, is appreciated and well used. There are many ways to contribute to the future of our campus library and the community we serve.

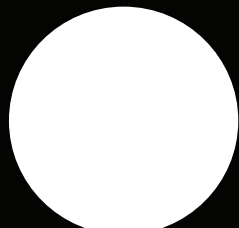
**\*Cash:** This is the most popular and simplest way to make a gift. Your gift is immediately available to support our library programs. Every dollar given is deductible in the year you make the gift. Cash, check, or credit card can be made payable to Iowa State University Foundation.

**\*Securities:** Contact the University Development Officer for instructions regarding year end gifts of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds.

**\*Planned Giving:** Take advantage of tax, financial and estate planning techniques to make a substantial gift commitment, realize tax savings or provide lifetime income.

As I travel around the country, I am always grateful for the opportunity to meet with you. If you want to learn more about what you can accomplish at the University Library through your philanthropy, please contact:

Jackie Howard  
Director of Development  
1-866-419-6768 or 515-294-9725  
JHoward@foundation.iastate.edu



**COC**  
for  
placement  
only

Black background may be set to  
another color  
if design warrants.

Insert printed with soy ink

Insert the recycled logo